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*Italian Emigration of our Times.* By ROBERT F. FOERSTER.  
(Cambridge: Harvard University Press. 1919. Pp. xv, 556.)

Students of immigration and population problems are placed under a great debt to Professor Foerster for the preparation of this volume. Unlike most American writers on immigration, Professor Foerster deals with his subject in its larger aspects and relationships. Only four chapters (91 pages) of his book are devoted to the special problems of the Italian immigrant in the United States, and these are the least valuable and in many ways the least satisfactory chapters of the whole book. This latter statement is not made in the spirit of criticism, for the literature of this aspect of the subject is so abundant and so accessible that students may easily digest and interpret it for themselves. Nine other chapters of Professor Foerster's book deal with the subject of Italian emigration to other countries. Especially valuable are the four chapters (97 pages) dealing with the Italian immigrants in the Argentine and Brazil, for these chapters in the history of Italian emigration are full of interest to those who would understand the Italian in the United States.

But the especial importance of Professor Foerster's work is the careful analysis of the causes of emigration, of the effect of this movement on the Italian nation, and of its probable future,—for the future of Italian emigration can be forecast only as a result of such an investigation of emigration at its source as Professor Foerster has made. As a result of his searching study of the Italian state papers, such as the *Inchiesta Agraria*, the *Inchiesta Parlamentare*, and the *Bolletino dell'Emigrazione*, and of his wide acquaintance with the other Italian literature of his subject, Professor Foerster has presented a scholarly and interesting account of the emigration movement properly set against its Italian background.

Italy has been, as Professor Foerster points out, one of the few great emigrating nations. In South Italy, emigration has been "well nigh expulsion; it has been exodus, in the sense of depopulation; it has been characteristically permanent." The picture of the Italian peasant roused from an "age-long lethargy" to flee from the profound economic disorders, the social maladjustments and the extremities of poverty of his native country is a thrilling story, and it is a story that must be studied by those who wish to understand the Italian peasant in his efforts to adapt himself to the complex social and economic life in his new environment.

As regards the mentality and character of the emigrants who return to Italy, opposing views are presented (pp. 458-459). Nitti's opinion "that emigration is a distribution of scholarships" and that it "is not possible to measure the gains in knowledge nor the inferences from experience that emigrants bring back. They have seen the world and lived in it and have grown indefinitely in stature; something that has been dormant has come to awakening; where blankness was, positive wisdom has surged forth"—may be contrasted with a statement by Professor Bordiga in his report on Campania: "It must be confessed that the great majority of the emigrants depart illiterate and return so, and at home have no influence on the spirit of the country, the course of public affairs, and so forth."

Two other valuable features of the volume should be noted: the heroic struggle with the emigration and immigration statistics of the Italian and other governments from which Professor Foerster emerges with as much success as may be had in this baffling field; and his valuable detailed account of the work carried on by the office of the commissioner-general of emigration in Italy and the corresponding emigration council. Here Italy has initiated a unique and valuable social experiment, the results of which may now, thanks to Professor Foerster, be more widely known and carefully studied.

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*Our Italian Fellow Citizens.* By FRANCIS E. CLARK. (Boston: Small, Maynard and Company, 1919. Pp. ix, 217.)

It is a pity that a book prompted by such good spirit as this should be woven together of such thin tissue. The title is misleading, for nearly the whole volume treats of Italy and Italians, with slight reference even to emigration, not to speak of "fellow citizens"—unless the character of the last can be said to be made clear by explicit eulogy of Marconi and denunciation of d'Annunzio. The attractive illustrations are mainly unrelated to either title or text—one is a picture of "Lake Stresa," which does not exist. A pilgrimage to Benevento discovers the fact that this capital city is "in Foggia," where it has doubtless been since Baltimore became a city in New York. Yet even such grotesque errors are probably to be expected. The author's familiarity with the Italian language—there is plenty of support for the guess—does not go beyond the phrase-book. Writing in the year 1919, he